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FAIRVIEW FARM SEED CO.



1918

SIDELL, ILLINOIS

FAIRVIEW FARM SEED COMPANY

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1918

H. J. SCONCE

President Illinois Seed Corn Breeders' Association

Member of
Illinois Corn Growers' Association
American Breeders' Association
International Live Stock Association
Luther Burbank Society

FOOD ADMINISTRATOR
For Vermilion County

Advisory Member of
The State Board of Agriculture

ILLINOIS
PRINTING
COMPANY



FAIRVIEW FARM SEED CO.

TO OUR PATRONS

In presenting this Annual Grain Catalog to our customers we do so with the hope that we will be able to accomplish at least two things.

First: To educate the farmers of the corn belt states to raise a greater amount of marketable grain in order to meet the increased demands of the government.

Second: To inspire those who have the land, the time and the inclination to become breeders of agricultural grains in order that our standard varieties of grain be brought to a higher state of perfection.

We are not offering this booklet as an ordinary seed catalog, but present it more as a bulletin from an experiment station; showing the results of scientific research work with corn and oats, extending over a period of fourteen years.

All our statements and results are backed up by years of careful work of a duplicate and triplicate nature, and

no results are taken as conclusive until at least five years of work show in the records.



POLLINATING DEVICE

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The corn breeding work on Fairview Farm consists of the hybridization of various varieties, also the hand

pollination of various strains within the same variety.



RECORDING THE CROSSINGS BY HAND POLLINATION

This is carried on by the use of the pollinating-device and oiled paper bags shown in the accompanying picture

With this device we are able

to perpetuate and intensify the desirable characteristics of any strain of corn or to eradicate the undesirable feature of any individual plant, thereby controlling the future destiny of the race.

We now have twelve years' work of corn breeding by the ear to the row method, and the 920 acres of corn of Fairview Farm this past year is only two years removed from these breeding grounds. Consequently we are able to take seed from any field.

This method of ear to the row breeding gives an absolute test on the power of reproduction of an individual ear of corn.

With the element of environment placed on a comparable basis in reference to all the ears in the plot, we have to deal with the heredity side of the problem only, and through the performance records of the individual ears we perpetuate the high yielding strains.

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The following table will serve to illustrate how this high yielding characteristic is transmitted from one generation to another.

Johnson County White Strain No. 122

Year	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Yield	100.0	84.0	94.0	104.3	67.2	134.0	56.0
Year	1914	1915	1916	1917	Average		
Yield	78.4	85.6	69.1	104.7	88.8		

It may be that owing to a poor season the yield will be reduced, as in 1911, but the power of reproduction is so well established in this well bred strain that it made the heavy yield of 134.0 bushels to the acre the following year. The same thing was true of 1916 and this past season.

To illustrate how it is possible to influence the physical characters of corn we show a picture of our high and low variety.

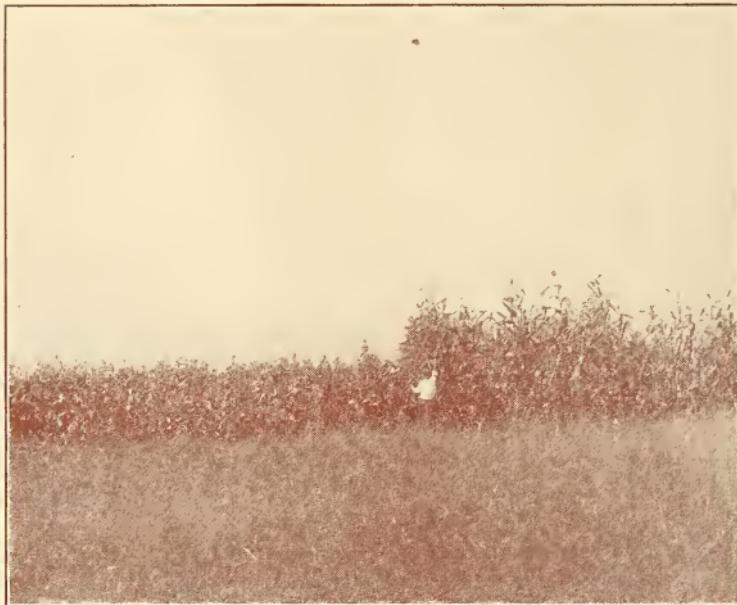


THE CORN PLANT UNDER CONTROL

Ten years ago this corn was all of the same height, but by selecting the high ears and the low ears, and breeding from these we have been able to grow corn

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with the ears touching the ground in the low variety, and in the high ear variety, the ears growing twelve feet from the ground. In creating this difference we



HIGH AND LOW VARIETY OF CORN

also have influenced the maturity, until at present time the low corn is fifteen days earlier than the high corn.

The low corn is very erect—only three per cent blowing down while forty-seven per cent of the high corn blows down.

This only serves to show how easily it is to grow corn with the ears placed at the correct position on the stalk for easy husking, also how it is possible to influence the maturity or any characteristic of the plant that is in question. The yield however is in favor of the low corn, and of course takes out less plant food from the soil than does the high corn.

Corn planting started last spring on Fairview Farm April 26th, and as the corn was extremely early we were able to select a great amount of the finest seed that we have ever offered. The seed was hand picked off the standing stalks and stored in a well ventilated, furnace heated seed house. This insures a high germination and seed with wonderful vitality. This also

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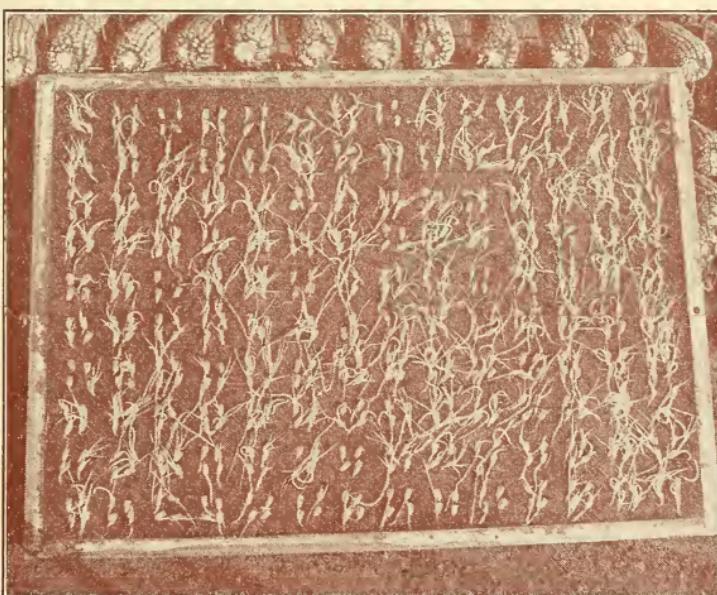
insures a rigid inspection, as the ear is first selected by its position on the standing stalk, being high enough for easy husking, and not so high that the stalk will be broken by the wind. These ears are again inspected when they are unloaded at the seed house, and again when they are placed in the wire racks for drying.

The last and most rigid inspection occurs when these ears are packed in the bushel crates for shipment to you.

During the winter months about fifteen thousand ears are tested for germination for our own planting, and from this test we are able to guarantee to you a germination per cent that will insure you a perfect stand of corn when planted in your fields.

As chairman of the Red Cross Society we originated the Sidell Red Cross Corn Plan.

This plan was for every farmer who was so disposed to give 1/100 of his corn crop to the benefit of the Red



GERMINATION TEST

Cross Society. On Dec. 8th, we husked our 9.2 acres and delivered to the elevator 730 bushels of corn, an average of 79.3 bushels to the acre. This corn at

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\$1.35 per bushel netted the society \$985.50 and serves to show how Fairview Farm Seed Corn produces when it is growing for a good cause.



RED CROSS CORN ON FAIRVIEW FARM

JOHNSON COUNTY WHITE

This wonderful corn has the reputation of being the greatest prize winner of all the other varieties of corn put together, as it has won more National and State corn show prizes than all other varieties combined. It not only has the attractive appearance that is so pleasing to the eye but it has the proportion of shelled corn to cob, the perfect shape of ear, and most of all the ability to produce a great yield of corn to the acre.

The ears are from 9 to 11 inches long, $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, 18 to 22 rows of kernels and matures in 120 days. A reference to the table on page 5 will give you an idea of how this corn yields, on soil without any fertilization, other than crop rotation, as the breeding grounds are operated without the aid of fertilizers. Every ear of seed that will be sold this year is a direct descendant of such ears as 122 and will

Eight

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continue to produce such averages as are shown in this table.

The seed corn that we have to offer of this variety this season is an especially fine lot, and will meet the approval of the most critical.

REID YELLOW DENT

This great variety of corn is so well known all over the world that a thorough description is hardly necessary, as it is one of the greatest varieties of corn that has ever been developed. Starting with its first appearance as a distinct variety in 1856, being selected and bred by the most intelligent breeders of the country since that time, it is offered here as the finest yellow corn in existence.

Of all the varieties of corn tested at the University of Illinois with the test extending over a period of seven years, Reid Yellow Dent produced a greater average yield than any other variety, was second in the northern part of the state and second in the southern part of the state. This shows that it is able to adapt itself to local and climatic conditions.

This characteristic is a most valuable asset in any variety of corn, as it enables the seed shipped from one locality to another to produce a fine crop the first year, which many varieties are not able to do.

This variety of corn is from 9 to 11 inches long, 18 to 22 rows of kernels and matures in 110 days. All the ears of Reid Yellow Dent grown on Fairview Farm this past season trace their ancestry back to two ears produced in 1905. The progeny of these two ears have made an average yield in the breeding grounds of 78.0 and 80.1 bushels to the acre for the past twelve years.

This year we have the largest and finest seed that we have ever grown and we invite inspection of this seed before purchasing, as we know that we have the finest lot of Reid Yellow Dent seed ever offered for sale.

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PRICES

Due to an abnormal season and unusual conditions we find that we are compelled to advance the price of our seed corn to an exceedingly high figure. Upon taking our cost figures for the crop this year, the hand picking, storing, and germinating, we find that the former prices for seed corn will not pay for the labor of placing the corn in the hands of the customer. Further we find that there is a greater percentage of corn that will not germinate (even though it have all the other desirable characteristics) that has been placed in the seed house, and this of course is rejected after the rigid inspection that all our corn received. This adds to the cost, as it takes a more thorough inspection this year than ever to bring our corn up to the state of perfection that we demand and the kind that our customers pay for.

As stated before, our corn is of a finer quality than any year of our history, and we shall ship to our patrons this spring the finest corn that has ever been your privilege to purchase.

In order to produce this quality of corn it requires the most exacting work and expenditure of time and labor.

We are making two prices on Seed Corn this year.

Seed Corn of the Johnson County White or Reid Yellow Dent, either in the ear or shelled, carefully selected and a guaranteed germination of 90%, \$7.50 per bushel, crate or sacks included.

Believing there are customers who desire to have quality and at the same time be absolutely assured that every ear will grow, we therefore will sell either of the above varieties in the ear only, in one bushel crates with every ear tested for germination through our germinators, just as we do for our own seed, at the price of \$10.00 per bushel.

Then

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SWEET CORN

During the past six years we have devoted quite a lot of time to the breeding and hybridizing of sweet corn seed, and this year we offer for the first time seven varieties, with three of these distinct hybrids of our own creation.

Our aim has been to develop a good yielding prolific strain of sweet corn with a high sugar content and we have in our Bantam-Colossal, Black Mexican Hybrid, and the Crimson Beauty, three new hybrids that will meet with the approval of the most exacting critic.

THE BANTAM-COLOSSAL

is a hybrid of the Golden Bantam, and two crosses of the White Colossal, the beautiful early corn from Maine. This yellow cream colored hybrid is extremely sweet, medium early, grows very large handsome ears, and is the delight of every family who has had an opportunity to test the flavor.

THE BLACK MEXICAN HYBRID

is a cross of Black Mexican and the Colossal. After five years of experimentation we have a beautiful, speckled sweet corn that carries all the most desirable characteristics of the Black Mexican, such as the sweetness of kernel, and the large earliness of the Colossal. It is an early variety, a heavy yielding sort and for home consumption cannot be excelled.

THE CRIMSON BEAUTY

is our newest offering in the sweet corn line. It is a handsome crimson corn, as sweet as any sugar corn ever grown. A medium early, prolific, fine yielding variety, and the kernels are easily removed from the cob.

This is a fine variety to follow some of the extra early varieties, and should be given a trial in every home garden.

IDEAL EARLY

The largest early variety grown. Produces a large handsome ear, ready for use July 4, sweet as many of the later varieties and, on account of its size and productivity, should be grown in the rotation with the ones mentioned above as this is the extra early sweet corn that will please you.

F A I R V I E W F A R M S E E D C O .

COLOSSAL

This is the great white medium early corn that we have been crossing with our best varieties and owing to the many fine qualities of this corn we believe that our other good varieties should have some of the Colossal characteristics, therefore have used this in our hybrid work.

It is very large, and prolific, a fine yielder and very early for so large a variety.

COUNTRY GENTLEMEN

For a late corn this well known variety cannot be improved upon. It is quite unnecessary to describe this corn as it is so well known. We have an excellent lot of seed of this variety and every garden should have at least one planting of Country Gentlemen.

PRICES OF SWEET CORN

1 Pint, 30c postpaid; 1 quart 50c; 1 peck, \$3.00.

Prices on larger quantities quoted on application.

SEED OATS

Having completed the fifth year of our oat experiment, we are now able to offer seed of the ten varieties that have survived the elimination trials, and can recommend the seed of these varieties as being adapted to this latitude and climate.

There are a greater number of different varieties of oats throughout the country than any other grain grown on the farms. Some are early maturing with short straw, while others are later having longer straw. Besides the time of maturing there are two essential points that a person should consider when selecting a variety. These are the yielding ability of the variety and the rust resistant and lodging resistant qualities.

In 1913 we tested 102 varieties of oats on Fairview Farm. The varieties that failed either in yield or in ability to withstand rust, hot weather or other adverse conditions, or in having weak straw were eliminated

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This same process was continued each year until we now have but ten varieties after five years of work.

We are able to state that these varieties are adapted to the climatic conditions of the corn belt states, and as they have been subjected to the formalin treatment for smut for the past seasons they are now practically free from smut.

These varieties were selected for their yielding ability and for different dates of ripening. This feature thereby enables the farmer to harvest his crop, having several varieties, without any of them getting overripe.

The varieties are divided according to their date of ripening into the: Early—Sixty Day, Kherson and Early Champion; Medium—Big Four, Silvermine, Great American Banner, National, University No. 26, and Late—Wisconsin Pedigree No. 1, White Russian.

The early varieties having short straw, clover does excellent when seeded with these varieties. They



ANCESTORS OF OUR SCIENTIFICALLY BRED OATS

mature early, thus getting out of the way of the hot weather of July.

Silvermine has proven to be the best yielding variety

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TABLE SHOWING COMPARATIVE YIELD AND DATE OF RIPENING OF OUR TEN VARIETIES OF OATS.

NAME OF VARIETY.	1913			1914			1915			1916			1917			5-Yr. Average	
	Date of Ripening.	Yield in Bushels.															
Sixty Day.....	July 7	14.65	July 6	41.2	July 4	61	July 11	72	July 16	72.1	July 9	52.2					
Kherson.....	July 8	18.75	July 9	40.1	July 8	60	July 14	73	July 20	75.8	July 12	53.5					
Early Champion.....	July 6	12.89	July 6	44.5	July 4	60	July 11	68	July 17	67.6	July 9	50.6					
Big Four.....	July 18	24.61	July 18	60.0	July 16	63	July 16	61	July 26	74.6	July 19	56.6					
Silvermine.....	July 15	32.81	July 20	59.1	July 13	62	July 17	61	July 28	73.5	July 19	57.7					
Great American Banner.....	July 18	15.82	July 18	58.2	July 17	58	July 18	56	July 27	67.5	July 20	51.1					
National.....	July 15	26.95	July 22	56.2	July 17	62	July 19	63	July 28	64.0	July 20	54.9					
University No. 26.....	July 18	18.75	July 18	58.2	July 18	64	July 20	63	July 30	66.5	July 21	54.1					
Wisconsin Pedigree No. 1.....	July 20	17.50	July 24	41.0	July 23	61	July 22	53	Aug. 1	66.3	July 24	47.7					
White Russian.....	July 24	24.61	July 27	23.6	July 25	58	July 29	42	Aug. 2	63.8	July 28	43.4					

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of the medium varieties for this locality. It is a good yielder and because it has a stiff straw, does not lodge. It will adapt itself to adverse conditions sooner than any other medium variety.



*SELECTION OF HEADS IN BREEDING ROWS
OF SILVERMINE OATS*

The White Russian is a side panicle oat, of heavy, stiff straw, quite late and a good yielder.

Any one having over forty acres for oats should have two varieties, an early and a medium variety, while one having more than eighty acres should have the late variety in order that the harvest would come gradually.

Is there any difference between pure bred seed oats and the ordinary seed oats? Farmers have come to the conclusion that there is. Seven years ago we selected several hundred heads of oats and bred these by the head to the row method, after the corn breeding plan. After a few years of this work we selected the desirable strains and started with four heads of Silvermine oats shown in the accompanying cut. The following year the oats from these four rows were planted in multiplying plots shown in the picture. During the following years great care was used in selecting, threshing, and storing this strain of oats, in order that it be kept pure.

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Last year enough seed had accumulated from the progeny of these four heads to sow 22 acres of Field No. 8, containing 80 acres. The picture shows the oats at harvest time. In selecting the seed for each succeeding year our ideal was a high yielding strain of oats that would not lodge. These characters showed themselves very markedly this past year. Every straw stood erect, not one lodged; thus, every bit of the oats being saved. These 22 acres averaged 84.5 bushels to the acre, while the other 58 acres which contained average ordinary Silvermine oats yielded 74.5 bushels to the acre. As the soil was of the same physical and chemical condition throughout the entire field, the difference of 10 bushels is due entirely to the pure bred seed. The Silvermine seed that we have for sale is from this strain. As this seed has had the formalin treatment for the past years for smut, it is now immune.

We have the ten varieties on hand and will offer any of these for sale. The seed will be recleaned, sacked in two bushel sacks, and sold F. O. B., Sidell.



84.5 BUSHELS TO THE ACRE AND PERFECTLY ERECT

Seed Oats, all varieties, \$1.25 per bushel, sacks free.

All prices of Seed Corn and Seed Oats subject to change.

